

Application No.: 09/661,334
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REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-11 have been rejected. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Claims 2-10 have been reiterated. Claims 1-11 are pending.

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to clarify the subject matter of the claimed invention. Support for claims 1 and 11, as amended, may be found, for example, at page 6, lines 6-10, and page 7, lines 12-14, and page 8, lines 9-11, and in the referenced figures. No new matter has been added.

With respect to all amendments and cancelled claims, Applicant has not dedicated or abandoned any unclaimed subject matter and moreover have not acquiesced to any rejections and/or objections made by the Patent Office. Applicant reserves the right to pursue prosecution of any presently excluded claim embodiments in future continuation and/or divisional applications.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-4, 8-9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,233,389 to *Barton et al.* (hereinafter referred to as “*Barton*”).

Applicant submits that *Barton* does not disclose or suggest all the features of independent claim 1. Specifically, *Barton* fails to teach a “plurality of different bus interfaces,” as required by amended claim 1, or “a plurality of different standard format bus interfaces,” as required by amended claim 11. The mere disclosure of a number of different input modules in *Barton* does not mean that the device has a plurality of different bus protocols. *Barton* Figure 1, referenced by the Examiner, refers to different inputs, but fails to disclose a plurality of different bus interfaces. Figure 2 also fails to disclose a plurality different bus interfaces. Instead, Figure 2 only discloses input modules connected to a media switch, connected to an output module, without any reference to a plurality of different buses. Figure 7 also fails to disclose a plurality of different bus interfaces. As such, *Barton* fails to teach every limitation of the claimed invention.

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In addition, *Barton* fails to teach a "shuttle borne power supply." The Examiner points to *Barton*, Figure 1, to support this limitation. Figure 1, however, provides no reference to any such power supply. Because *Barton* fails to disclose all features of independent claim 1, *Barton* also fails to disclose every feature of the claims that depend therefrom.

Claim 3

Barton also does not disclose or suggest all the features of claim 3. The Examiner argues that "the feature of the docking device associated with a second high capacity disk drive ... would be present in *Barton et al.*" The Examiner points to Figure 13, 1307 and column 12 lines 15-20 in support of this contention. Figure 13 1307, however, is a VCR, not a "second, relatively high capacity disk drive," as required by claim 3. Further, column 12 lines 15-20 discloses only that "any multimedia recording device," and not disk drive, "can be substituted" in place of the VCR. As such, *Barton* fails to teach all limitations of claim 3.

Claim 4

Barton also does not disclose or suggest all the features of claim 4. The Examiner argues that "the feature of transferring data from the shuttle hard disk drive to the docking station hard disk drive under control of the disk processor would be present in *Barton et al.*," and points to "disk medium 1305" and "disk medium 1307" for support. As noted above, *Barton* fails to disclose the claimed "relatively high capacity disk drive" of the docking station. Further, *Barton* fails to disclose a "disk processor" that controls transfer of data "from the shuttle hard disk drive to the docking station hard disk drive," as required by claim 4. *Barton* thus fails to teach all limitations of claim 4.

Applicant respectfully requests that this ground for rejection be withdrawn.

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Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 5-7 and 10 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being anticipated by Barton et al. in view of Official Notice. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections, and traverse the finding of Official Notice.

Claims 5-7

Claims 5-7 require that the "data shuttle includes its own power supply and monitor, and controls responsive to the user of the shuttle so that the data shuttle functions as an independent entity."

As noted above, *Barton* fails to anticipate claim 1, as amended. *Barton* thus fails to anticipate claims 5-7 that depend therefrom.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Official Notice, and request that the Examiner produce authority in support of the Official Notice. The Examiner argues that "it is notoriously well known in the video recording/ reproducing art to have a data disk storage device including its own power supply that is rechargeable so that the device remains fully portable and independent of any permanent connection." Applicants respectfully submit that the officially noticed subject matter is not common knowledge or well-known in the art. The Examiner appears to be referring to video recorders, not data shuttles having a plurality of inputs and outputs. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide documentary evidence as to the officially noticed subject matter.

Further, the Examiner, makes no mention of the data shuttle having its own "monitor, and controls responsive to the user of the shuttle so that the data shuttle functions as an independent entity," as required by the claims. These claim limitations have not been officially noticed, nor are they found in *Barton*. Absent such a reference or Official Notice, the Examiner has failed to meet every limitation of the claims.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that these grounds for rejection be withdrawn.

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Claim 10

Claim 10 requires "a USB bus, a 1394 bus and an ATA bus connected to the disc processor and hard disk drive so that inputs and outputs from a digital data accessory can be stored and accessed directly over these busses."

Applicants respectfully traverse the Official Notice, and request that the Examiner produce authority in support of the Official Notice. As noted above, *Barton* fails to teach a plurality of different buses. With respect to claim 10, the Examiner admits that "*Barton et al* fails to specifically disclose the features of the USB bus, a 1394 bus, and the ATA bus." The Examiner then argues that "it is notoriously well known in the video recording/ reproducing art [that] inputting means would include the USB bus, a 1394 bus, and the ATA bus connected thereto so that inputs from a digital data accessory can be stored and accessed directly over the buses." Applicants respectfully submit that the officially noticed subject matter is not common knowledge or well-known in the art. As noted in the Specification, the SUB bus "may provide a bidirectional connection for example to an MP3 player, a digital camera, or a PC." (Specification, page 7, lines 13-14.) The 1394 bus "could be connected to a digital camera or a PC or a digital VCR." (Specification, page 7, lines 17-18.) Further, the ATA bus "could be connected to a flash memory or other data storage device directly to the disk processor." (Specification, page 7, lines 18-19.) Each of the recited buses can be attached to different components for different purposes, and none are specifically recited by either *Barton*, nor established to be "notorious in the art" by the Examiner. Further, the Examiner fails to provide that one of skill in the art would be motivated to combine the recited buses with the subject matter of *Barton*, or that one of skill in the art would have a reasonable expectation of success in making the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide documentary evidence as to the officially noticed subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this ground for rejection be withdrawn.

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Conclusion


In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes that this case is now in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining issues that remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 146712008800. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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